The Skipper's Wooing

By W. W. JACOBS.

In less rapid times, before the invention of the electric telegraph and other scientific luxuries, Capt. Gething would have remained quietly on board the Seamew and been delivered to his expectant family without any further trouble. As it was, the message in which Capt. Wilson took such pride reached Mrs. Gething just as Mr. titover, who had been sitting in her parter of the afternoon listening as patiently as he could to her somewhat uninteresting conversation, was on the point ofdeparture. Theeffect-unlim was hardly iese nunked than on his hostess, and he went on his way to the railway station in a condition in which rage and jealousy strove for the mastery. All the way to dered over ways and mean to wrest from his rival the prize which he lad won, and by the time the train had reached Feuchurch street he had hatched as pleasant a little plot as ever occurred unn, must of whose existence had been spent amid the blameless surrouns ings of ladies' hosiery. Half an hour later he was sitting in the dingy furnished apartments of a friend of his witlived in a small house off the Walworth

"I want you to do me a favor, Tillot arn." he said to the unkempt-looking

"I shall be delighted." said Mr. Tillet son, sticking his hands in his pookets and warming himself conductably at a fire ent trimmed with red pape roses "if I can, you know."

It is a great favor," said Glover, Mr. Tillotson, looking very despondent said of course that would please like more "I wouldn't ask anybody but you to do it," sold the wily Glover. comes off all right I will get you that berth you miked me for at Leathan

"It's coming off then," said Mr. Tillet son, brightening visible. "If you will wait a minute, if the girl is in I will ask

"I had better begin at the beginning," said Mr. Glover, as, all the "Ha" having been trimophantly surmounted, he belped himself to a small flat bottle of whisky;

it won't take long."

He in his pipe, and plunging into his finished it without interruption "And this hargee has got the old unanid Tilioteon, using the terms Glover had employed in his parrative. "I don't

what is to be done, Glover " "I want to get him away," said the "If I can't find him, nobody else sush, and I want you to help me." "So down to Stourwich, the him up to Tellotson, trying to live up to a reputa-

"Can you get away tomorrow;" de marded Glover, Impatiently. "I am as free as the birds of the air," ended Tilletson, gloomity, "the only

upon birn, of being sarcastic.

"I can tecken on you, then," said Glover
"I thought I could We have known each other a long time, Tillotson. There is nothing like an old friend when one is

Mr. Tilinison assented modestly, "You aget about Leatham & Roberts'," he said

"Of course not," said Glover. "You see it won't do to be seen in this thing myself. What I want you to do is to come down with me to Stourwich and bring the old man to Lendon, then I can find him at my own time, in the street or anywhere, quite hapharard like." "I don't quite me how it is to be

done," seld Tillotson. lon at ten minutes past 8," said Glover. finishing his glass and rising, "and we

will have a try at any rate." He shock hands with his friend, and following him down the uncarpeted stairs, easily rising and departed to his place of

about the morrow. as at the station and in the train first in the morning Mr. Tilletson turning up with that extreme purctuality which embles a man to catch his train before it

"I was nalf afraid at one time that I shouldn't have done it," said Mr. Tillot son to self-congratulation as he fell onto the sent. "Smoker, too! Couldn't have done better if I had been here at 7 o'clock." They reached Siourwich soon after mid-day, and Glover, teeping a wary look-

out for Wilson, proceeded slowly to the quay with his friend, leaving the latter to walk down and discover the schooner while he went and hired a first-floor om at the "Royal Porpoise," a little bow-windowed tavers, facing the harbor "That's the one," said Tillotson, as he joined his friend upstairs and led him to the window; "that little craft there See that old chap working with the rest? Mr. Glover, who was focussing a pair

gave a little exclamation of surprise "That's him, sure enough," he said, pubting down the glasses. "Now what are we

At Tillotson's suggestion they had som dinner and Glover fumed the afternoon away, while his friend bung about the quay. After tea his impatience got the better of his caution, and, pulling his hat over his eyes, he went on the quay, too Fifty yards beyond the Seamew he found a post, and leaning against it, with his friend, auxiously watching the deck of the

"There's three of 'em mainr ashore." said Tiliotson suddenly. "Look! They wetrhod breathleady as the crev walked slowly off, and dusk coming on

approached a little closer. in a wittener, "Pon't look,"

what's the use of telling me?" sold Tallelson reasonably.

continued Glover excitedly, "the mate, I expect. Now's your chance. Get him away and I'll stand you sensething handsome-

What do you call something handsome fewerish the his friend's.

"Get him safe to London and I'll stand a fiver," said Glover, "Now go. I'll

Mr. Tillotson baving got matters on a business footing, went, and carelessly twist ing his small monstache, slowly approache the schooner, on the deak of which wa

"is Capt. Gething abourd, old man? inquired Mr. Tillotson in a friendly veice.
"Down the cabin, I b'lieve," said Henry,

"I should like to see him." said Mr

"I've gut no objection," said Benry Charmed with his success, Mr. son suppedaboard, looked on and descended to the cabin.

in the darkness for the matches, and have ing obtained them, struck a light and tosked around. The cabin was empty

peered in; that, too, was empty.
"He mus, have gone for a walk with the boy," said the shapper uneasity, when he re-turned with the news.

He took up the parcel again and went below, followed by the mate, and for some time ant silently smoking "Nine o'clock," said the mate at last in consternation as the little clock tinkled the hour. "That confounded boy's not up o mny mischief, I s'pese."

"I don't see what mischief he could do."

ndered the other, knitting his brown "Looks to me as if he's spirited him away," continued the mate. "I'll goashore end have a look round and see whether I can see any of them.

He took up his cap from the locker and vent. An hour elapsed, and the skipper, prey to great anxiety, wentup on deck. Two or three seames came up the quay and went aboard the steamer in the next berth. A woman came slewly along the quay, peering in an uncertain fashion at the various craft, and shrinking back as a scaman passed her. Abreast of the Sea-mew she stopped, and in the same doubtful manner looked down on the deck. The skipper crossed to the side, and straining

"Is this the Seamew?" inquired a fresh, "Annis!" shouted the astonished skipper.

He ran up the rigging, and stepping on the quay seized her hand. Then he drew her unresistingly toward him, and was lu the act of passing his arm round her waist when he remembered his position and drew back awkwardly.

'Come on toard," he said, gently. He straddled from the quay to the rig-ging, and extending his hand in the midst of a perfect silence, helped her to the "Where is my father?" she said ea-

Wilson made no reply

"Where is he?" she repeated Wilson shook his head. "I don't know," he said, gloomily; "I don't know. He was here four hours ago. He was here yesterday.

She caught his arm breathlessly "Where is be now? What have you done with him?" Wilson told her all he knew, and having finished, watched her anxiously as she

drew back a little and tapped on the deck listicssay enough, but as he got farther and farther from the ship all the feelings with her fost. A badly blended chorus, making up in strength what it lacked in harmony sounded on the quay, and gradually coming nearer, stopped at the Seame W for a final about The foc'sie was ascended by the cook and Dick with much vehemence, while sam,

> fore them. Silence up there!" showed the skipper sternly, as Annis shrank away, "Get be-

"Ay, ay, sir," said Dick, with a lurchome on Sam, we ain't wanted—here."
Will you get below!" roated the maddened skipper, giving the cook a push-'I'm very sorry," Wilson said, turning

o Annis, after a moment's pause, "everything seems to be going wrong tonight "So it seems," she said coldly. "Good-

"Where are you going?" said Wilson "Going to find a hotel," said Annis; there's no train back tonight." "Take the cabin," he said entreatingly. I and the mate'll sleep for ard." 'No, thank you," said Annis.

She stepped to the side, and assisted by he skipper, clambered up on to the quay The mate came up at the moment and stood eyeing her carlously

"This is Miss Gething." said the skipper dowly. "Any news?"

"None," said the mate solemnly; "they've centished like smoke." "It is certain," asked Annis, addressing

im. "that it was my fether?" The mate looked at the skipper and pushed his cap back. "We had no reason o think otherwise," he said shortly, "It's have gone home by train because he had

booner, about half a nale up the river. which is getting away about 1 o'clock "It couldn't have been my father," said Annis slowly. "Somebody has been de-Gundanight I will come

"Where are you going" impaired the "She's going to look for a hotel," said

"It's late," said the mate dublously Why not take her to the woman where er father has been staying? You said she seroed a decent sort"

"It's a poor place," began the other. "That'll do," said Annis, decidedly; "if it was good enough for my father, it is good enough for me. If it wasn't my Is it far"

"Two miles," said the mate.
"We'd better start at once, then," the skipper, moving a step or two by way of example.

"And perhaps you'll walk down, too?" said Annis to the mate. It went to the mate's heart to do it, but he was a stanch friend. "No. I think

I'll turn in." he said, blushing at his rude-He lifted his cap awkwardly and desoended. Annis, with her head at an un

comfortable altitude, set off with the skip

'T'm sorry the mate wouldn't come." said the latter stiffly.

After this they went on in silence plons the quiet road, Miss Gething realizing instinctively that the man by her side had got a temper equal to at least a dozen of ber own. This made har walk a little close: brushed against his. The skipper put his

They reached the late habitation of the us Capt, Gething without a word having been spoken on the journey. was uninviting enough by daylight. by night it was worse. "That's the house," said Wilson, in

dicating it; "No. 5. Whats the matter For Miss Gething, after making little dabs with her handkerchief at lips which did not require the attention, was furtively applying ittoeyes which dat. "I'm tired," she said softly; "tired and

disappointed. She hedlisted a moment, and then be fore Wilson bad quite made up his mind what to do, moved proudly away and knocked at the door of No. 5. It was opened after some delay by an untidy woman, who, having listened to the skip per's explanation, admitted Miss Gethic to her father's room. She then saw the skipper to the door again, and having ldm a somewhat grim goodnight,

closed the door. He walked back as sharply as he con to the schooner, his mind in a whirl with the events of the evening. As he neared the quay he broke into a run, in awkward mitation of a small figure approaching from the opposite direction.
"You little vagabond," he panted, selv

ing him by the collar as they reached the cheoser together.
"A' right," seld Henry; "tave it you

"Drop him overboard," said the mate.

who was standing on the deck. idalged in a glance of co made safe by the darkness at this partian, and with the air of one who kno wathet

"They're getting away at about one," saidthe mate; "and suppose ne won teeme, what are we going to do then? After all, it mightn't be her father."

wildered skipper; "I don't know what's "Well it ain't my business," said Henry,

who had been standing by sliently; "but I know what I should do."

Both men leoneuforward engerly.
"What would you do, Henry?" asked the skipper very quetly. "Go back an' Leich Miss Gething o

mate, "if there's thoe."
But the skipper lift already started. But the skipper life already started.
"You're a very mod boy, Heary," said
the mate approvingly. "Now go down and
watch the From natin, and as soon as
she starts getting under way run back
and let us know of she passes before he
comes back I'll bull der and try and find

Memtime the skipper, half walking, half running, went on his way to Overcourt, arriving at Stagg's Carden in a breathless ondition. No. 5 was fast asleep when be

"Who's there? What do you want?" was thrown up and a female head pro-

"I want to see that young lady I brought ere a little while ago," said the skipper 'quick.' "What, at this time o' night!" said

you are sweethearting " "Something important," said the skip-"Can't you tell me what it is?" said

who felt that she was in a position to have her curiosity satisfied

was closed. After what seemed an hour to the impatient man, he heard a step in the passage, the door opened, and Annie stood before him.

og together again down the road. Annis listening to his story as they went. As they neared the "Seamew" the skipper's species sank, for the mate, who was watch ing, ran out to meet them. "It's no use." be said, sympathetically:

sne's under way." Shall we hall her as The shipper, leaving Annis uncere

"Hoist a couple of lanterns, Jack, and call the crew up quietly," he cried to the

He was down on his knees with the boy unfastening them, while the mate, having lit a lantern, ran forward to rouse the men. The Frolic was now but twenty yards astern.

No," came the roar again "Drop your anchor and come alongside." housed the skipper. "I've got to stay here another week, and I've got a down bar-rels of herring must be in London before then."

"It won't take you half an hour," he chouted environder

The grating of the cable was music in his cars as it can out, and hardly able to believe in the assess of his scheme, he saw the crew taking in the sail they had Frolic was rubbing against his side.

instructions to Annis, "Look alive," said the master of the

Froite, "I'll just hake 'em on deck for He came fussily to the side to superin end, gazing curiously at Annis, who was

standing watching the operations. ome on board?"

You're quite welcome, if you don't get n the way" was the reply. Accepting this qualified permission, Annis stepped on board and walked quietly round

the deck. At the companion she paused and hoked around. Everybody was busy; and trembling with nervousness, she besita-ted a moment and then descended into the "That you, captain?" said a voice

"Hush!" said Annis. "Oh, all right," said Mr. Tiliotson borthy. "What's wrong?"

mething spring up and come toward her. omething which caught her in a might; grasp and crashed her soft face against long stiff beard. Laughing and crying to gether she put her arms about its neck nd clung to it convulsively.

"I don't understand," said Capt. Gething "You can understand that I wouldn't ake you into danger," said Annis tenderly Put your coat on and come with me.'

In a shamefaced fashion Capt. Gething still holding his daughter's arm, stepper on board the Seamew and shook hands with its master. By the time he was half brough his story there was a burning de sire on the part of the skipper to go down and have a look at Tillotson-a desire per emptorily checked by Annis, who had an troncous opinion concerning that gentle nan's identity, and the Frolle, having taken its herrings, sheered off with a friendly good-night. The crew of the Seamew watched her until she had her anchor up. and then, at the Impatient suggestion of

son in a lew value, as Capt. Gething, with wisdom born of years, went slowly be-

"I'm not," said Wilson in tones full of

the side surveyed with some interest the dark water and the sleeping town. Shedid not move when Wilson came and stood by

"I'm not satisfied-yet," said Wilson, raising her hand to his lips

His eye caught the two lanterns which were burning some what gariably, and cross ing over, he took them down and blew ther out. He turned suddenly at the sound of a smothered laugh, a moment too late Annis Getning had gone below.

JOSSELIN'S DREAM.

Josselin had been to church. He did not often go to church, and Whenhe did it made an impression on him. He made up for this impression by eating a Weish rarebit for supper Sunday night. That night he med that he was in heaven

It was just like what he had imagined it ever since he was a little boy. The streets were gold, and so were the houses, with diamond panes in the windows. The inschitants were hales and carried harps. Some of them did not seem to know just what to do with their harps. Josselin renembered the noise his next-door neighbor made in trying to learn the banjo, and shud

As he stood in the street, waiting for his halo and harp, he heard a familiar query.

"Oh, Marie, is my halo on straight?" Several ladiessat on the clouds near him They had to sit up very straight on account of their wings, which were more or less in the way. Josselin thought they must feel relieved not to have to watch the children. who consisted of heads with wings, thus being effectively prevented from doi any mischief. It was quite a convenient ar

A large and majestic-looking angel pres ently sailed up to St. Peter, looking very

much disturbed. She said: "My dear St. Peter, is it customary in nesven for the washerwomen to come in the same streets as their employers? I have just met my servant girlflying through the front door of vonder mansion, and I must say I am very much surprised. On the other side an angel with side-whiskers appealed to St. Peter with a

still more worried expression. My dear sir, I have been preaching to a congression which utterly refuses to listen to me. They spread their wings and flew away in all directions as soon as I had finished the text. I am the Bishop Gildersleeves, and I must say I an very

ach surprised at the lack of respect which is shown me." Josselin did not bear what the shint said out presently these two angels floated down the street together, talking earn-catly. It looked very much as if St. Peter had referred them to each other for consid

eration. state of perfect and rapturous bliss. One was an old, wrinkled, patient-faced woman the other a big, strong man. They were surveying each other with a somewhat

"Why, mother," the man said, "you iook just same's you used to."
"To be sure, son," she answered with a happy little laugh. "I ain't changed none. and neither have you. And how did you

A shadow crossed the man's rugged fea "I don't know 'bout that," he said "I'm afraid she'll have a hard uneasity. time. All them youngsters to look after, and her so little and frail. But I couldn't belp it. I bad to stand by the train

"Cerinin, certain, son," the woman an swered tenderly, laying a hand on his arm Wa'n't I right there "Bon" I know? with you the whole time in that burnin flery furnace? But you saved the folks, child, you saved the folks. And Mary'll You and me'll go down and see about that, by and by."

The man's face cleared as a suburst dents a dull sky. "D'you mean it, nother?" he said eagerly. "I don't feel's clears a dull sky. if I could stay away from her and little Jim and the kids. You were always good to Mary, ever since I brought her be Josselin's eyes were full of tears, and he moved hastily away. He wanted to be

HE WAS THE PUBLIC.

When the train reached Valley City, which consisted of a single house and a shanty depot, we saw a man mounted on a burrel under a tree and evidently making an address to a man sitting on the ground before him. The address was concluded as he draw up, and a moment later the orator boarded the train. Some one asked him what sort of performance had been going on and he replied:

Why, I came over here to address the people of Cooper county on the benefits of ing up the Stag River to navigation.

acounty for a crowd. Yousaw theman the grass, didn't you?"

"Well, he was all the crowd, and the way he took me by the hand and praised my humble effort makes me feel proud. He said it was the best speech of the kind

You don't mean to say you got off a old duffer at that!" exclaimed one of the crow d.

"That's what I did. sir." replied the orn tor, "and I think I carried my point Yes I think he will help Davis county to get the Stag River opened to pavigation."

But what can one man do?" Why, that's old Jim Cooper One man? after whom the county was named.

"Well, he's the only man in the county He owns every foot of the land and twenty miles of the river What he says goes. called a public meeting, assembled him, as dressed him and convinced him, and it

While the King of Slam was at Berne as federal council, after the banquet was and requested that each of the Swiss minis the draughtsman must first have his eves all consented as readily as the most obse quieus of courtiers. When all the sketch of the blinded politicians were exhibited was found that nearly every one of th amateur artists had drawn the tall at a distance from the pig, while the eye was placed in every part of the body excepting the head -Westminster Gazette

The Salvation Business. A Cleveland man who recently returne

when abroad.

"But cheer up, sir. You are no cow ard. It's just the strain on the nerves. It is always so in the first battle." Souls Repoyated While You Wait.

more-Capt. Bligh, of Company B, Four-teenth Infantry-but he had been on de-tached service instead of in the field with

his men. He had read and talked of the

tattles in which the Foorteenth had been engaged, and be was exultant over its vic-

tories. He had imagined himself with the company in the time of battle-in his place

mg on the fighting-holding the men up to

their work like a stone wall. It had never

stand the test of battle. Had any one

questioned it the captain would have fought

aim on the spot.

And Capt. Bligh had finally been re

eased from special duty and sent to the

to find the camp in commotion. Orders

tions, and that meant a movement, and the opening of the campaign. He was ju-

bilant at first, and he wondered that the

men were glum and grim, instead of ex-

oltant. Now and then he caught the sound of laughter, but it was not sincere.

Now and then some soldier broke into song

over his campfire, but a score of others

growled him to silence. Capt. Bligh was

looking for the romp of war, and this grim

ness disappointed him and brought seriou

tent he heard two of the privates of his

"Goin' after Lee, ch?" queried the first.

"That's the chalk, old man, Grant's

goin' to find Lee and go for him, and we'll

"Dunno. If he hasn't he'd better go ou

and haug himself. Don't look to me like a

"Nor me, either. He hasn't even seen fight yet, and, oh, Lord! how he'll

weaken in the knees when the shells tegin to fly and the bullets to hum! If he goes

back on us some of the boys will put a bullet

The words struck Capt. Rligh strangely.

The rank and file had been sizing him up.

that he might be branded as a cowardt

To ask that question was to doobt himself,

and as the doubt found lodgment his line

became dry and his breath grew short. Ten

plantes later he was asking of a corporal

"Corporal Henderson, you have been in several battles, haven't you?"

"Three hig ones, sir, and three or four

"How did you feel in your first battle?"

get over being scared till the sergeat

hell on the nerves, sir, begging your par

"But no officer ever bolts, corporal."

latter and discussed it with himself.

rounded. The Fourteenth had three or

our men wounded by stray bullets, and

the victims were laughed at as they went

"Watch the captain! Watch the captain!"

ulled himself together after that one be-

"He ain't goin' to flunk," said one ve

other; "but you wait till tomorrer! He

hain't got a duract bit of sand to carry a

self tomorrer. Durn all this fightin'! Why

can't folks git together and talk things

over and settle 'em that way? What d'ye

lars to cents that you git knocked over.'

"Hell to pay all along here, and it's do-

That night the men slept on their arms

and after the darkness had come down there was no more firing. If any other

Bligh did not know it. He lay for hour

himself. The events of the afternoon has

proved to him that he was lacking in cour-

age. It was a hard thing to admit, but it

was true He had wanted to seek the cover

to turn his back on his company and fly to the rear. He had suffered with fear until

be was weak and exhausted. Yes, he

will compel a man to halt when fear is

lacked courage, but he had pride. Pride

carrying him away. In one sense pride la

the superior of courage. At midnight the captain rose up and walked about, and

after awhile he came upon the corporal

whom he had talked with before the army

moved. He reused the man from a sound slumber and whispered to him:

"Not much." was the reply.

you could sleep.

"Corporal, were you watching me this

"Somewhat nervous, sir; but that was

"I can't sieep-I can't sleep!" grouned the captain. "Do you know, corporal, that I am a coward."

"Good God, but you don't mean it!"

"Yes, I do. I was on the point of run-ing away several times this afternoon.

We shall have a battle tomorrow, and

I'm afraid of myself. If I could

be counted on. It would be better if

of a wall-to fling himself down in a dib

looking up at the stars and fighting with

face like that, but he's got price

"Bah! I don't mind it."

think of tomorrer?"

What's pride got to do with it?"

"Same as you-durned homesick.

eran to another as they watched the cap

to the rear.

nder criticis

trayal of weakness.

hot skirmishes," was the reply.

whom he had sent for:

ome compulesary stores.

be right in it."

very gritty cues.'

Through the cotton walls of his

had been issued to prepare three days' ra-

front and his command, and he arrived

occurred to him that his courage might not

der-calling out orders-cheer-

An Enemy's Bullet

еуев.

He had been a captain for a year or | go to sleep again if you last night on earth, and I can't close my

> "But who can say you'll even be coratched tomorrow?" protested the corporal.
> "Let me tell you something. I haven't

> the courage to go through a battle which may last for hours. I shall want to run away at once. Then I shall do this." solster and just put the muzzle to his tem-

ple, and for half a minute the men looked into each other's eyes and neither breathed. Then the corporal gasped "It's awful, sir-it's just awful"

Only the corporal had his eye on Capt, Bligh. As the men roused up from sleep and took a hasty bite, the captain moved ing them. As the order came to form battle lines he repeated them. He was pale-faced, but he held himself creet and

ten minutes he will pull through the

rails and dirt, with every musket at the

full cock and every finger on the trimeer. "God, but how pale he is!" whispered the orporal, as he turned his head to look at the captain. 'They are coming-they will

sand cheers and yells and curses as the seen silence in the ranks of Company R. As the sheets of flame leaped out every man segan to cheer or curse.

"This will break the strain and hearten im up all tight now " said the corporal, as e peared through the smoke

Five minutes later, as he was polling a ore the palfor of death, even back!" shouted the corporal, as he pointed to the head of the line.

"I'm renning away-running away!" re-lied the captain, as he grasped the man by "Of course not. If a commissioned of-ficer should run away it would be worse the shoulder, and screamed the words into his ear. 'I told you I couldn't stand it, than death for him. No, sir his way would be to shoot himself on the field." and I told you --For an hour after the corporal went away the captain sat and thought over the

the corporal seized it and cried: Tion't, contain-don't! You are all right now! Go back-go back! No. I won't-f God, but look at that?"

a thousand times better that then dishonor

It was 2 o'clock in the afternoon that the sheriff of Books county rode up to Bill Hooner's cable at the foot of the charging him with stealing com. Bill's wife sat in the open door with a pipe in her mouth, and as the officer came along up,

Sam Davis, you are lest the man I wanted to see. I've heard you talk a heap about the Bible, and I want to ax you if you really believe that story about Juthe whale?

ourse. Is Bill around home today? furtively about him but shut his teeth "How bug a man was Joner?" persisted tard. The cries of the wounded men and the womanthe sight of blood made him stagger, but he

" Bout as big as I am, I recken. Did on say Bill was off huntin"?

"Read-fast, I reckon, though I ain't Dickman says it was feet-fust, but he wasn't thar' no more'n me. If Bill is around bone I'd like to see him a minit.

"Dunno; but he went right on livin"

"What gits me," continued the woman, salmly ignoring all onestions about her on to Joner when he had him. What did

'Can't say," replied the sheriff, "but they was, and so they turned out as they did. I was speakin' to you about Bill

what is he' "Bill? Oh, Bill is to home today." "Kin I see him?"

"For such. When you rid up he was

'Was you lookin' fur me, Sam?' "I was," replied the officer. "Yes, I test stopped a minit to say howdy and to remark 'but your ole woman and no fale, and hevin' said it I'll be goin' back to

Nice day, Bill-good evenin' to you, Mrs. Hosper!"

A Magnetic Spot. There is a spot in the city not more than

ten feet square to which, sonner or later, very wicked New Yorker will return, and upon which he will trend. It is a square of payement immediately in front of the main nal who has been absent from New York for years never feels that he has actually returned until he has pressed his foot upon that spot, and ex-Superintendent Byznes is authority for the statement that a detecive can always arrest the man he wants on that spot if he will wait there long enough - New York letter to the Pitte-

"Willie." shouted the irate father.

got killed at the very opening of the "I didn't cat no encumbers. I'm to be

the contortionist in the circus what we're goin' to give in the barn "-Detroit Free

the gloom. "All alone?"
"All alone," repeated Capt. Gething, looking up and wondering who this might be "His too dark to see you far," said Tillotson, in a mysterious whisper, "but it's Capt Gething. ain't it?"

"That's me," said the captain uneasily "Going to Northfleet?" inquired Mr. Tillotson in another whisper "What do you mean?" inquired the cap-

tain quickly, as he gripped the edges of the "Are you sure it'll be all right?" con-

"What do you mean?" repeated the captain from his seat. "Speak plain."
"I mean that you had bester bolt," said Tillotson in a hurried whisper. "There's a heavy reward out for you, which Capt. Wilson wants. You can't do what you did for nothing, you know."

Capt. Gething sat down in his seat again and shaded his face with his hand. "I'll go back," he said brokenly, "Wilson told me he was alive and that it was all a mistake. If he's lying to me for the rice of my old neck let him have it."

What about your wife and daughter strong disrelish for his task. "I saw in the paper last night that Wilson had got you. He's gone ashore now to make grangements at the station." "He had a letter from my daughter this

"He told you it was from ber," said Til-Excited by the part he was playing, he bent forward and cluiched at the old man's arm. Capt. Gething, obedient to the touch, se, and taking ids battered old cap from

"We're going for a drink," said Tillot-on to the boy. "We'll be back in ten minutes." "All right," said Henry cheerfully; "wish was going with you." The other laughed airly, and gaining the quay, set off with the allent old man by his side. At first the old man went

a nail, followed him in silence above.

of the hunted animal awoke within him and he was as eager to escape as Tillotson sald have wished. Where are we going?" he inquired, as bey came in sight of the railway station.

I'm not going by train."

"London," said Tillotson, "That's the ost likely place to get lost in." "I'm not going in the train," said the her doggedly. "Why not?" said Tellotson, in surprise "When they come back to the ship and

find me gone they'll telegraph to London," said the old man. "I won't be caught like

a rat in a trap." "What are you going to do, then" in quired the purplexed Tillotson "I don't know," said the old man. Walk, I think It's dark, and we might get twenty miles away before daybreak." "Yes, we might," said Tillotson, who had no fancy for a nocturnal pilgrimage

Tittotson shook his bead. They'd be bound to spot you tramp ing about the country," he said, confidently. "Now do let me know what's best for you, and go by train." "I won't," said Gething, obstinutely You've been very kind-more than kind-

of the kind; "but we're not going to."

"Let me go slone," said the old man

in giving me warning. Let me go off by myself." Tillotson shook his head and glan od carelessly in the direction of Glover, who was some yards behind.
"I wish you'd trust me," he said, "You'll be safer in London en ruestly. Capt. Gething pondered. "There's

this morning," he said, slowly. "I've Mee' me tomorrow morning at Water. Worked on her once or twice, and the him well. He knows me as Strond." "If you'll wait here a minute or two I'll go to the sailway station and get my bag." said Tillotson, who wanted to

onfer with his chief.

said Capt. Cething. "Now den t run away," said Tillotsor "If you won't go by train impressively. perhaps the schooner is the best thing we can do. urried consultation with Glover, returned

'I'll wait up the mad, under the arch.'

anxiously to the arch. Gething standing in the shadow with his hands in hi cockets, was patiently waiting. "It's all right," said Tillotson cheer fully; "and now for a sea voyage. You knew the way to the schouner, I suppose? They made their way back cantiously, Captain Gething turning off to the left be one they reached the harbor and leading the way through dingy little streets private bouses and chandlers' shops. It was not a part usually frequente people taking an evening stroll, and Henry,

who had begun to get uneasy at their ab sence, and starting in search of them had picked them up at the corner, foll wondering. His wender increased as they left the souses and met the cool air blowing from The road was dark and unever and he followed cautiously, just keeping them in sight, until at a tumble-down little wharf they halted, and after a low con solitation, boarded a small schooner lying slongside. There was nobody on the alongside. deck, but a light showed in the cabin

and after a minute's hesitation they went watcher, ensoanced behind a pile of boxes shivered with the cold. Unconscious o the amicable overtures in the cabin, which had resulted in the master of the "Frolic taking a couple of cabin passengers who were quite willing to rough it in the matter of food and accommodation and willing to pay for it, he was afreid to desert his post Another hour passed. A couple of seamen came by his place of conceniment, and stepping aboard, wendown the foc'sie. A clock struck eleven and a few minutes later the light in the

cabin, and gaining the wharf again, he et off as hard as he could run to the Wilson and the mate returned to the ship, laden with their spails, and pitching them on board first, descended themselves by a slower and pleasanter method. "I expect our chaps are all ashore still," said the mate, looking round.

"Pretty state they'll be in for a start

Just go down and send him up,"

suppose the boy's down with the

The boy watched another quarter of an

still, crept noiselessly on board.

to give a man a suit of clothes. ing toward the skylight. He went below and felt his way into the cabin.

"I can't make head or tail of it," said he skipper, after the boy had fin "He's taken fright at something or other

"I don't know what to do," said the be

course," said the boy, "an' take her down to the ship. That I jettle it." "By Jove! the boy's right," said the

out what it all medus

reached it and began a violent thunsping his eyes through the gloom, looked up at

the lady. "Be reasonable, young man, if

"Tell her I've got news of her father," said the skipper, restraining himself with The head disappeared and the window

With a very few words they were walk

moniously on the quay, sprang abourd an peered auxiously down the river. In night was startight and he could

"What for?" said the other, in astonish-"You light 'em." cried the skipper, excitedly. "Henry, help me off with these

"Aboy! schooner, aboy!" bawled Wilson ing suddenly to the side. "Halloa!" came a boarse voice "Are you full up?" shouted the master of the Seamew.

The Frolle was abreast of them, and he held his breath with aur

just begun to set. Ten minutes later the The hatenes were off the Seamew, and a lantern awinging in her hold shed a sickly

"What a nice ship," she said. "May I

we stopping for?" What are Amis made no reply. "Who is it?" said the voice again,

Annis lesitated, waiting to hear another voice, but in vain. She funcied that the heard another person breathing, but that was all. "Futbor" she eried suddenly, "I 's me! Amis! Where are you" There was a great shout from the other side of the cubin, and in the gloom she saw

"There, there, my lass!" said Capt. Geth-'We only stopped you by a miracle," said Annis hysterically, "The 'Seamew' is donuside, and why you wanted to run

did as he was bid. He stopped as though better of it, followed his daughter on deck "I'm not coming with you, cap'n," he gid, as that ardent mariner passed then "A'right," said the other, briefly; "you

with the lublice week in London, was aske Henry, who was stage managing, went be

and the verdict was unfavorable. men were questioning his courage, and in going into battle every man's eye would be upon him If he showed the white feather -was it possible, asked the captain of him-self, that his courage could fail him, and

He ventured timidly down a path which ran along by the river side, and there espied two people who seemed to be in a

leave Mary?"

He feared bie courage, now that it was to be put to the test, but he was grimly resolved not to diagrace his company.

corporal had given him an idea, and if worst came to worst he would act upon it. A hundred thousand men broke camp and went marching to the south for twenty oller and then they found a lion in the The heads of columns tiled to the right and left, guns were hursed up and planted at intervals, and the legions faced each other in battle-line. There was only and weak spots in each other's position A few hundred were killed-a few hundred

whispered the Company "B" men at frement intervals during the afternoon, and Capt. Bligh realized that his every move As the lines of battle were formed be ecame pale-faced, and there was a tremoin his voice as he spoke. As a shell screamed ever the head of the regiment he looker

and have been speaking for the last two "No. you didn't. No. this isn't much of

he ever listened to." two-hour speech to that one man, and be at

fore snow files then I'm no prophett" .

nost forcibly appealed to my American de ight in the exaggerated form of humor was a sign over a Salvation Army barracks in I stombled upon it one afternoo while strolling aimlessly about. Here is a literal copy of the inscription:

~Cleveland Plain Dealor.

"But I'll do it!" said the captain, as a rose up and moved away.

The sun was scarcely above the tree ops next morning when the battle opened. It began on the right wing and rolled down along the front as you have seen a great wave runalong a breakwater. In a quarter of an hour from the first crash of musketry the center was fighting for its life. The men of Company B who had said to each other the afternoon before, "Watch the captain," gave him no thought on this norning. They saw the battle lines of the enemy marching out one after another to attack them, and they waited with bated breath for the first shock.

his lips were compressed. waiting," said the corporal, to himself, as he looked across the fields at the trainping lines. "If he can hold out for

Tramp! Tramp! A host of men n gray, with flags rippling in the morning preeze and thes dressed as if on parade, moved across the barren fields with sternset faces. Along the lines in blue the men lay in thousands behind the breastwork of

pull through." Tramp! Tramp! Crash! Crash! A wallot flame two miles long - a cloud of blue-black shock came. Before the volley there had

"I wanted to bolt, sir, and the Lord only ad man aside, the captain stood before knows bow I pulled through it. I din't m. He had described his place. His face kicked me and made me mad. I am told that seven of our men got into a ditch and ough the heavy smoke, and his eyes lookoi the terror which was cating at his soul. had to be kicked out. The first battle is "Go back captain-for God's sake go

> In his right hand be had his revolver. He lifted the weapon toward his face, and

struck the captain in the head and spattered the corporal with his blood. It was

CHARLES B. LEWIS.

BILL WAS AT HOME-

"Of course I do," was the reply "of

"And did the whale swaller him head-fust or feet-fust?" continued the woman, es she crowded some fresh tobacco into ber "Nothin' to flunk over in this," replied the

"A mighty lot. He'll shoot himself rather than run away How ye feelin' yerself." that whale till he was cut out?" I can't say why the airth roes round, "Veraliar We all mindit though we've bin here before. I'm kinder sarry fur the bed and asleen, Mrs. Hooper?" curptain, but mebbe he'll git a hold of him

leanin' his gun out back o' the horse, but I recken he's ready for you by this time Jest step around the co'ner The sheriff stepped and ran against the nuzzle of a shot gun held in Bill's hands.

burg Dispatch. It Resembled Cocumbers.

"No, corporal—no!" signed the captain, goin' as he sadly shook his head. "Well, you Press.